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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:

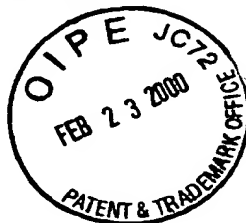
Group Art Unit: Unknown

HEERY et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Appln. No.: 09/423,037

Filed: October 29, 1999



FOR: INHIBITORS OF NUCLEAR PROTEIN/NUCLEAR RECEPTOR INTERACTION

Date: February 23, 2000

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to taking up this application for a first Action on the merits, please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 5, 3, 7, 9, 12-15, 18 and 19 as follows:

5. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 2-4] claim 1 in which the signature motif is [further defined as] B²B¹XXLL wherein B¹ is any natural hydrophobic amino acid, B² is a hydrophobic amino acid, L is leucine and X independently represents any natural amino acid.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 2 or claim 5 in which B¹ is leucine or valine.

7. (Amended) A method according to any one of claims 1, 2 and 5 [1-6] in which the nuclear protein is a coactivator.